

## Brake Failure Cited in Town Truck Crash

Written by Steve Frank

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The State Highway Patrol and the Motor Carrier Division are still investigating the Monday night crash of a Town of Boone truck, working to clear snow and ice, and the SUV of a Boone woman. Her passenger, Reinald Gomez, 57, remains in critical condition today at Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center after being rushed on an emergency transfer late Monday night after a being pinned in the vehicle. Trooper Searcy said that Gomez was struck by the scraper blade on the truck after it lost brakes coming down the steep hill at University Hall and slammed into the Mercury Mountaineer of Liliana Arias of Boone. Blowing Rock Road was closed for the rest of the evening for the investigation and cleanup of the scene. Trooper Searcy said the Town of Boone truck appears to have had some failure in at least one brake, and the state patrol motor carrier division found several other issues, but the investigation is still underway.

Photos by Dakota Barnes, Steve Frank